CLAIMS:

We claim:

1.   A user centric policy creation and enforcement method comprising the steps of:

        observing state changes and action invocations in disparate applications through visual views of said applications;

        establishing correlations between said observed state changes and action invocations;

        formulating rules in a policy based upon user selected ones of said established correlations, each of said rules specifying a state change in at least one of said applications, and at least one resulting action invocation in at least one other of said applications; and,

        applying said policy to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein said step of observing comprises the steps of:

        page crawling markup defining a visual view of said applications; and,

        demarcating segments of said markup as segments which visually indicate state changes in said applications.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing comprises the steps of:

noting a time for each of said observed state changes;

further noting a time for each of said action invocations; and,

correlating said observed state changes with said action invocations based

upon said noted times.

4.   A user centric policy creation and enforcement system comprising a policy

interface unit coupled to a plurality of user interface views into corresponding disparate

applications, said policy interface unit having a configuration both for establishing a

policy to respond to observed state changes in selected ones of said applications with

action invocations in others of said applications, and also for enforcing said established

policy by applying said action invocations responsive to observing said state changes.

5.   The system of claim 4, wherein said user interface views comprise portlet

views.

6.   The system of claim 4, wherein said policy interface unit is disposed within an

integrated solutions console.

7.   The system of claim 4, wherein said policy interface unit comprises a learning

component, a user dialog component and an enforcement component, said learning

component having a configuration for correlating observed events with action

invocations to formulate proposed rules, said user dialog component having a

configuration for accepting a user selection of said proposed rules, said enforcement component having a configuration for enforcing selected ones of said proposed rules.

8.   A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for user centric policy creation and enforcement, said computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

observing state changes and action invocations in disparate through visual views of said applications;

establishing correlations between said observed state changes and action invocations;

formulating rules in a policy based upon user selected ones of said established correlations, each of said rules specifying a state change in at least one of said applications, and at least one resulting action invocation in at least one other of said applications; and,

applying said policy to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

9.   The machine readable storage of claim 8, wherein said step of observing comprises the steps of:

page crawling markup defining a visual view of said applications; and,

demarcating segments of said markup as segments which visually indicate state changes in said applications.

10.   The machine readable storage of claim 8, wherein said step of establishing comprises the steps of:

noting a time for each of said observed state changes;

further noting a time for each of said action invocations; and,

correlating said observed state changes with said action invocations based upon said noted times.

11.   A method for user centric policy creation and enforcement comprising the steps of:

observing in an initial policy interface unit state changes and action invocations in at least one application through a visual view of said at least one application;

establishing correlations between said observed state changes and action invocations;

formulating rules in a policy based upon user selected ones of said established correlations, each of said rules specifying a state change in said at least one application, and at least one resulting action invocation in one of said at least one application and at least one other application; and,

distributing said policy to at least one other policy interface unit.

12.   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of enforcing said policy in said initial policy interface unit to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

13.   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of enforcing said policy in said at least one other policy interface unit to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

14.   The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of limiting said enforcing of said policy in said at least one other policy interface unit based upon pre-defined permissions.

15.   A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for user centric policy creation and enforcement, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

        observing in an initial policy interface unit state changes and action invocations in at least one application through a visual view of said at least one application;

        establishing correlations between said observed state changes and action invocations;

        formulating rules in a policy based upon user selected ones of said established correlations, each of said rules specifying a state change in said at least one application, and at least one resulting action invocation in one of said at least one application and at least one other application; and,

        distributing said policy to at least one other policy interface unit.

16.   The machine readable storage of claim 15, further comprising the step of enforcing said policy in said initial policy interface unit to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

17.   The machine readable storage of claim 15, further comprising the step of enforcing said policy in said at least one other policy interface unit to automatically respond to each subsequently observed state change with a specified action invocation.

18.   The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of limiting said enforcing of said policy in said at least one other policy interface unit based upon pre-defined permissions.